



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education *DRW*

DATE: July 24, 2017

SUBJECT: Summative Assessments Calendar for 2017-18

The 2017-18 Summative Assessment Calendar for Connecticut public schools is presented below.

2017–18 Summative Assessment Calendar			
Content Area(s)	Assessment	Grade(s)	Testing Window
English Language Proficiency: Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing	LAS-Links	K–12	January 3–March 9, 2018
English Language Arts & Mathematics	Connecticut Smarter Balanced	3–8	March 26–May 25, 2018
	Connecticut SAT School Day	11	<i>Primary Test Date:</i> March 21, 2018 <i>Makeup Dates:</i> April 24 and 25, 2018
	Connecticut Alternate Assessment	3–8 and 11	March 26–May 25, 2018
Science	CMT	5 and 8	March 26–May 25, 2018
	CMT Skills Checklist	5 and 8	March 26–May 25, 2018
	Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment Field Test	5, 8 and 11	March 26–May 25, 2018 (Grade 11) April 30–May 25, 2018 (Grades 5 and 8)
	NGSS Alternate Assessment Field Test	5, 8 and 11	April 30–May 25, 2018 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)

Though the 2018 nine-week Smarter-Balanced test window is similar in length to the 2017 window, activity data show that the vast majority of Connecticut districts are able to complete testing in five weeks or less. Feedback

from districts also shows widespread interest in having a shorter Smarter Balanced testing window. However, there are still a few districts that report the need for the full nine weeks mostly due to technology capacity issues.

Therefore, the length of the 2018 window will be ample again in deference to this need but the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) urges districts that are using the full window to take an inventory of their technical capacity and scheduling practices to see if future testing could be completed in five weeks. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance in this regard. The CSDE remains committed to not only minimizing the testing time for each student, but also shortening the window in future years so that districts and schools do not remain in “testing mode” for any longer than necessary.

Additionally, as indicated in my earlier email to you that was sent on July 14, 2017, the CSDE is [seeking flexibility from the United States Department of Education \(USED\)](#) to not administer the CMT Science and the CMT Skills Checklist Science in Grades 5 and 8 during 2017-18. Instead, the CSDE is requesting flexibility to administer an NGSS assessment field test for both the standard and alternate assessments in lieu of the CMT Science and the CMT Skills Checklist Science. We encourage you to provide your feedback on this flexibility request by emailing the Performance Office at CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov by July 28, 2017. If this request is approved by USED, then the CMT Science and the CMT Skills Checklist Science assessments will be removed from the calendar.

Any questions regarding this assessment calendar can be directed to the Performance Office at 860-713-6860 or CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov.

cc: Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Chief Performance Officer